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PATENT

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September 25, 2000

Date

Bonita R. Gladden  
Bonita R. Gladden

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicants : Merl F. Hoekstra et al.  
Application No. : 09/385,918  
Filed : August 30, 1999  
For : METHODS FOR MODULATING SIGNAL TRANSDUCTION  
MEDIATED BY TGF- $\beta$  AND RELATED PROTEINS

Examiner : Janet L. Andres, Ph.D.  
Art Unit : 1642  
Docket No. : 860098.433  
Date : September 25, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated May 23, 2000, please extend the period of time for response three months, to expire on September 23, 2000 (Saturday). Enclosed are a Petition for an Extension of Time and the requisite fee.

Applicants hereby elect without traverse Group I, claims 1-10, directed to methods of screening for modulators of ubiquitin ligase/SMAD using a binding agent, for examination at this time.

Applicants further elect, without traverse, species B (factors affecting BMP/SMAD1/SMAD5), as recited in claims 1-10, as the single species to which the claims may be restricted if no generic claim is held allowable.

In view of the above election, Applicants hereby withdraw claims 11-54 without prejudice to the filing of any divisional, continuation, or continuation-in-part application. Consideration of the elected claims is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Seed Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC



William T. Christiansen, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 44,614

WTC:brg

Enclosures:

Postcard  
Check for \$435  
Petition for an Extension of Time (+2 copies)

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